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By FRANK P. MAC LENNAN.

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Those gifted political prophets who see the nomination of Elihu Root for the presidency by the Republican national convention ought to be able to see a little farther and size up such action for what it would be, the commission of political hara kiri by the Republican party. The leaders of the Republican party who will control the convention are gentlemen of judgment and astute politicians. They know this as well as anybody. And it is reasonable to urge that they will proceed to butt the party's head against the stone wall of defeat merely for the purpose of parading their power in the councils of the party, and especially at such a time as this when the nation is so sorely in need of the services of the Republican party to guide its ship of state?

Speaking of teaching the young idea to shoot quickly, the Montessori method will have to take a back seat to a new alphabet that's been developed in China. A Chinese alphabet, of course, by means of which two boys, for instance, who have never been to school can be taught to correspond with each other in four months.

In lifting the ban on dancing and card-playing, official Methodism, as it is constituted at its general conference now in session at Saratoga, will only be doing what a considerable party of unofficial Methodism has done these many years.

General Rain is one of the old socks, at least, whose presence in Kansas is not generally frowned upon. His recent visit may not have caused much enthusiasm among the baseball and the joy-riders, but he landed on the farms of the state at a most opportune time, and that's what counts in Kansas.

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So tickle, also, is Gentle Spring. Even the Black Hills of the Dakotas are white with snow.

PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE.

In the platform that was adopted by the last Democratic national convention were these dictums: "We demand a return to that simplicity and economy which befits a democratic government, and a reduction in the number of useless offices, the salaries of which drain the substance of the people."

"The law pertaining to civil service should be honestly and rigidly enforced, to the end that merit and ability shall be the standard of appointment and promotion rather than service rendered to a political party." The Democratic congress which was supposed to be bound by this platform will go down in history as the greatest "apologia" congress of recent times. Instead of abolishing any offices, it has created hundreds and hundreds of new ones, and it has kicked such holes in the civil service system that years will be required to repair them. And President Wilson has aided and abetted in this civil service slaughter.

The Evening Story

A Matter of Teeth.
(By Her Merritt.)

Miss Arabella was all in a flutter. When a woman having attained the age of forty-five, (thirty-nine, if you will), begins to receive marked attention from an eligible man, she may be pardoned for getting a little bit excited.

And Miss Arabella's life had contained so little love, so little personal interest, that the fact that some one thought enough of her to show her little attentions, bring her gifts and defer to her timidly expressed opinions seemed to bring the dawn of a new existence.

Mr. Jenkins had come unostentatiously into his place at Miss Cross's boarding house two months before. At first, he had attended strictly to his own affairs, but as he was a gentleman of leisure, this soon grew monotonous. Then, in casting about for human companionship, he passed over the younger women and the girls and began to cultivate an acquaintance with Miss Arabella. First it was just short conversations in the parlor or on the porch, then it grew into the form of a new magazine, a bunch of violets, or a box of candy. From this was a short step to an invitation to go to the movies, and then to a walk in the evening or for a walk in the nearby park on Sunday afternoon. By the time the summer had come, the boarders had accepted of the incipient romance, and no one thought of intruding on Miss Arabella's corner of the evening when the two were alone.

Mr. Jenkins sat in the parlor, talking little, but beaming at each other beatifically. And now it was June, and the day after tomorrow was Miss Arabella's birthday. And he had invited Miss Arabella, with an air which there was no mistaking, to move with him to the beach for her birthday party. The middle-aged woman had not yet declared herself, but Arabella was morally certain that she would come. He had been on the beach trip an engaged woman. Her heart—even at forty-five—thrilled at the prospect.

Miss Arabella was up on the very morning of the birthday, after Miss Arabella had timidly presented the matter to her admirer. With her own fair hands, she bit into a piece of hard candy taken from a box which Mr. Jenkins had brought her the evening before, and as she ate the plate of her upper teeth. They were beautiful, but deceitful teeth. Without them, Miss Arabella looked even more than forty-five.

With them, she could easily have passed for ten years younger. She had worked for her admirer. But she did not ponder long over the situation. Stealing out of the house unseen, she hastened to the dentist who had made the teeth.

No, declared, that autocat, he couldn't possibly fix the teeth while she waited. It might be possible to get them done by five o'clock. He wouldn't promise.

But he did promise finally. Miss Arabella's agonized moans and her hard heart. He agreed to mend her teeth before he closed up that night. Miss Arabella went back to Miss Cross's. By means of a house, for instance, who have never been to school can be taught to correspond with each other in four months.

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IT'S FIGHT SPIRIT

Already Washburn Football Men Adopt Kennedy Tactics.

Pep Meeting of Enthusiasts at Gym Last Night.

Whatever their weight may be, there will be a scrappy fighting squad of football players at Washburn next fall. A whoop-er-up pep-teach meeting of the football followers was held in the gymnasium last night. Coach Kennedy was there. Football heroes of other days were there. The faculty representatives were there. An awakened student body was there.

It was the greatest revival of the "Washburn Never Quits" spirit in many years.

Captain Sammy Stewart—member of a family of football heroes—soundly rebuked the jokers and the cowards. He gave one of the most peppery and significant talks ever heard at a Blue gathering. If Captain Sammy had had the right to carry a gun, he would have carried it on the field. If he is able to urge his men on next fall as he talked to them last night—opponents beware!

Indian Urges Work.

Captain Clements of the 115th Haskell Indian team gave the Washburn football men a pep talk on the value of strict training. His talk was indicative of the spirit of the Lawrence school.

Coach Kennedy closed the evening's contributions—after ten or more men had spoken—by saying that the school was leading up to his Washburn plan and bringing out the spirit and opportunities of the school. Kennedy said he intended to place a man on the team at all and that when he wanted to pay off the indebtedness against it he would see to it that each player gave to Washburn all he had in him. He said he saw in the college an opportunity for wonderful football development—but made no promises on the evening before, and said that when the plate of her upper teeth. They were beautiful, but deceitful teeth. Without them, Miss Arabella looked even more than forty-five.

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ONE OF SEVERAL REASONS

Mrs. Sweet Alleges False Pretense in Suit for Divorce.

Alleging that he fooled her into believing he owned a home in Topeka, Bessie E. Sweet today filed a petition in the district court asking for a divorce from Clarence Sweet.

That is just one of the reasons advanced by Mrs. Sweet as a logical reason for divorce. The cows and chickens also play a part in the matrimonial affairs of the Sweets.

Mrs. Sweet states that they were married in October of last year and that there are no children, although she has children by a former marriage.

Most of the time since their marriage, she says, she has furnished the food and clothing for the family, including the chickens and the cows, which she possesses both a violent temper and violent hands, the latter of which she says he has laid upon her several times.

She says he stays out late and returns home well-intoxicated, then accuses himself of abusing the family, including the chickens and the cows, which she possesses both a violent temper and violent hands, the latter of which she says he has laid upon her several times.

Then she lists their respective property at the time they were married. She says she owned two horses, one cow, one chicken and a lot of chickens. She says she had a plow, a wagon and a moving van. But she says, he told her he owned a house, located on two lots near the railroad street, upon which there was only \$100 due.

Mrs. Sweet says she advanced the money to pay the \$100 and since then she has spent \$345 improving the place. After doing all that, she says, she recently discovered that the house was not his, but was made out to a brother, James Sweet. Now, she says, James Sweet has served notice upon her to vacate the premises.

She said she had been told that when she was married, twenty-five dollars a month alimony, a divorce, and title to a \$10 lot in Mount Auburn cemetery.

Faculty Enthusiastic.

The faculty removed all wet-blanket fears last night by donating three dollars to the football fund. Professor Risser, president at the meeting, filling in with opportune enthusiasm, urged the faculty to play a more active part in the game.

Others who spoke during the evening were: Dean MacEachron, who said "Dear Mac" as they refer to him, played a minute of music and assured the boys that they were happy—whether he looked that way or not.

The meeting was planned a week or so ago by Washburn's veteran personification of loyalty—Washburn's scrapbook of athletic information—Mr. H. W. Wall, who is now a member of the faculty. He was assisted by Mr. H. W. Wall, who is now a member of the faculty.

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COOL AND CLOUDY

Soaking Rains Fell Last Week in Kansas.

Crop Condition Good, Says Weather Bureau Report.

This week was unseasonably cool and cloudy, with high winds on several days, but the summer weather of weather and crop conditions issued by the weather bureau for the week ending May 16.

Soaking rains, which exceeded two inches in many northeastern counties, fell on Saturday and Sunday over all the state except the southwest portion and the extreme southeastern counties, and were very beneficial. All crops made a good growth and are looking fine except corn and wheat from Dodge City, where the ground is setting very dry on top, but even there the soil is moist.

Moisture is reported in the sub-soil and a few moderately heavy rains occur in the south-central and southern counties, where the ground is moist.

Wheat is looking fine in all parts of the state except the southwestern, and in some central counties, where damage to the wheat crop is reported. The condition of oats and barley is reported as being satisfactory.

Planting corn has been finished except in the more northern counties, where about three-fourths of the corn crop is now in the ground. Corn stands in all parts and cultivation is well under way in many places, but the corn crop is not yet in the ground in many places.

Planting alfalfa has begun in several counties. Pastures and alfalfa made a fine growth generally. Alfalfa is beginning to bloom and the first cutting has been made in many places.

Eastern counties, with indications that it will be general in another week. This cutting is very heavy.

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BACK TO LEARNED

L. F. Fountain Returns in Custody of the Sheriff.

He Still Professes Admiration for Miss Marie Palmer.

C. H. Dixler, sheriff of Pawnee county, reached Topeka early this morning and left before noon with L. F. Fountain, the gay Lothario from Pratt county who followed Marie Palmer to Topeka.

In the short time that Fountain was around the jail and the sheriff's office he made friends with everyone. He was good-natured and laughed at his escapade in Topeka. He expressed regret that the name of "his best girl" had not been in the newspapers but otherwise was satisfied.

He showed no hesitancy in accompanying Sheriff Dixler to the jail and in the charge of writing and cashing bogus checks.

"I can fix that up all right," he said, "They know me well. I didn't intend any harm. I wouldn't have hurt that girl for the world. I think too much for her for that. I don't want to go full of booze and forget where I was."

"Did you write those checks the last time you were in jail?" he asked.

"Oh I suppose I did," said Fountain, "I'm liable to do anything when I take on to do anything."

Two girl friends of Miss Palmer called at the sheriff's office this morning to see Fountain but he was already gone. They were very sorry for the long, lean westerner and wanted to know all about his trouble. They had heard that he was in the county jail and they wanted to see him.

Miss Palmer is said to be out of the city.

FILE COUNTER CLAIM

Palace Clothing Company Asks Judgment Against Mrs. Crosby.

Mrs. Flora Crosby brought suit some time ago against H. A. Auerbach and H. A. Guetzel to collect money alleged to be due for rental of a building adjoining the Palace Clothing company.

The defendants filed answer in the district court last Saturday afternoon asking for judgment against Mrs. Crosby for \$52,352.50, alleging that they were deprived of the building upon which they claim